



Capital Health

MEMORANDUM

To: All CDHA Clinical Areas

From: Dr. J. Godfrey Heathcote
District Chief, Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine

Shauna Thompson
Administrative Director, Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine

Date: March 10, 2015

RE: **Laboratory Information System Downtime**
Saturday March 14-Sunday, March 15, 2015: 2345-1000

On Saturday, March 14 and Sunday March 15, the Cerner Millennium Lab and DI information system hardware will be upgraded. During this time, laboratory staff will revert to more labor intensive downtime procedures to deliver STAT and critical values to the appropriate care areas. **Please note the following during the downtime:**

- **Restrict Laboratory test orders to those required to support immediate patient care.** It is anticipated that the Millennium system will be available again to all users on Sunday morning. Broadcast messages will be sent from the IT Helpdesk notifying all users of the status of the upgrade and when Millennium becomes available again.
- **Paper requisitions must be used in place of Millennium Order Entry.** E.g., in the Emergency Departments at Halifax Infirmary, Dartmouth General Hospital and Cobequid Community Health Centre, must revert to using paper requisitions.
- **The Millennium LIS Inquiry function is unavailable to both Laboratory Central Reporting (473-2266) and those non-laboratory staff with access to Millennium LIS Inquiry.** If you require laboratory results from testing performed before the downtime, please use Horizon Patient Folder (HPF) or Capital Health's Portal to retrieve results from STAR registered patients.
- **Do not call the laboratory for test results that are not needed for immediate patient care.** Verbal requests for laboratory results require technical staff to interrupt testing so that the result may be retrieved, a laborious process. Since many of these requests in the past were related to reports already available on HPF or the Portal, the negative impact on our ability to report critical laboratory results in a timely way was unjustified.
- **Reports that normally print to designated printers will be faxed to the appropriate fax machines in the care areas.**

With your cooperation, we will be able to support optimal patient care with timely diagnostic information during the upgrade of the Millennium information system. All orders and results completed during the downtime period on CDHA patients will be entered into Millennium once it becomes available again and they will be sent to the Clinical Portal and HPF to maintain a complete patient record.

Any questions or concerns, please contact Anita Muise, District Manager Laboratory Client and Support Centre, anita.muise@cdha.nshealth.ca